

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A thermally sprayed article comprising:
an article substrate;
an inner layer of a metal material thermally sprayed on said article substrate
and having a first predetermined thickness; and
an outer layer of a composite made of a polymer material and the metal
material flame sprayed on said inner layer and having a second predetermined thickness, said
outer layer having a hardness less than said inner layer.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A thermally sprayed article comprising:
an article substrate;
an inner layer of a metal material thermally sprayed on said article substrate
and having a first predetermined thickness; and
an outer layer of a composite made of a polymer material and the metal
material flame sprayed on said inner layer and having a second predetermined thickness,
wherein said second predetermined thickness is less than said first predetermined thickness,
said outer layer having a hardness less than said inner layer.

3. (CANCELED)

4. (CANCELED)

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A thermally sprayed article comprising:
an article substrate;

an inner layer of a metal material thermally sprayed on said article substrate;

and

an outer layer of a composite made of a polymer material and the metal material flame sprayed on said inner layer, the polymer material and the metal material being co-deposited to form said outer layer, wherein said outer layer has a hardness less than said inner layer.

6. (CANCELED)

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A thermally sprayed article comprising:
an article substrate;

an inner layer of a metal material thermally sprayed on said article substrate

and having a first predetermined thickness; and

an outer layer of a composite made of a polymer material and the metal material flame sprayed on said inner layer, the polymer material and the metal material being co-deposited to form said outer layer and having a second predetermined thickness less than said first predetermined thickness, said outer layer having a hardness less than said inner layer.